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WEEKLY PEOPLE

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1903

ANOTHER ILLUSTRATION

THAT PROVES THE LABOR FAKIR A CAPITALIST TOOL.

The News Comes From McKeesport that Shaffer and Powell Are Manipulating Their Unions in Warring Conflicts Between Trust and Independent Mills.

McKeesport, Pa., July 25.—Union men here are being treated as bold an exhibition of fakirism as one can well imagine. It is all part of a move by the American Tinplate Company to cripple the McKeesport Tinplate Company, which is an independent concern.

The first public appearance of "unionism" in the conflict between the two concerns was on Wednesday, July 15, when the Amalgamated Association of Steel, Iron and Tinworkers, through its chief fakir, Theodore Shaffer, called a strike in the mills of the independent company. The strike was made the ostensible purpose of gaining "recognition of the union." The McKeesport mills were only started about three months ago, and were supposed to be, so far as unionism is concerned, on the same footing as the Dummel mills of the tinplate trust. That is, the men were hired with the understanding that the mill was open to union and non-union men alike, though the Amalgamated scale of wages was to be paid.

As I said before, the first public appearance of the union in the conflict between the trust and the independent concern was the declaration of the strike, but it was about three or four weeks ago that the first move was really made by the Shaffer gang. Some of the "union" men were gotten together with the intention of organizing a local. The company at once fell into the trap and discharged some of those identified with the work of "organization." Incompetence was the excuse given by the manager of the mill.

Then a committee of the union waited upon the mill management and demanded the reinstatement of the men discharged. The company refused to recognize the "union" committee, claiming that the mill is an open one. Some more men were fired because they broke the "agreement" they had entered into when they started to work.

It is hinted at by many here that Shaffer is in the pay of the trust, and is using his union to aid the trust in its work of crippling the independent mills. In fact, the McKeesport Herald in its issue of July 17, said: "Some ugly stories are being circulated, which if true entitle the strikers to some sympathy. It is said that the American Tinplate Company is a factor in the trouble in an effort to cripple the new independent mill. In this case the imputation would lie most heavily upon President Shaffer."

In talking to the strikers, Manager Laul called attention to the fact that good union men are permitted by Shaffer to work in mills which the association has on the blacklist. This is true, but the mills are trust mills. The strikers acknowledge that conditions in the mills of the McKeesport Tinplate Company are as good if not better than in the trust mills. In a statement given out by the mill management it is stated that while they paid the Amalgamated scale they never had that scale presented to them by the union.

On July 1 another fakir showed up at the scene of the strike; this one an effort to cripple the new independent mill. He is President Powell, of the Tinworkers' International Protective Association. He presented the scale that governs the tin house, but the managers of the mill asked for time until the present difficulty is settled. Under the circumstances Powell said he would not press the matter nor call out the men.

Some claim that Powell's actions are due to the personal enmity between him and Shaffer, they not having spoken to each other since 1901. Be this as it may, it is at any rate a grand demonstration of union fraternalism! Surely these things must open the eyes of some of the dupes of both "leaders."

Another instance of Shaffer's dirty work has come to the writer's notice. In Canonsburg there is a mill formerly operated by the trust, but now by an independent concern, and which pays the union scale. About two months ago Shaffer called the men out on strike for mill, both trust concerns, the same conditions prevailing, and there is no kick by Shaffer and his gang for "recognition."

Shaffer's latest move against the Mc-Keepsport mill is a threat to proceed against them under the anti-discrimination law, but the trust can discriminate as it pleases and no protest from Shaffer.

But then Shaffer and some of the trust men belong to Hanna's Civic Federation, you know.

So far as can be learned no provision has been made for financing the strike, though Shaffer says that "the Amalgamated will spend every cent in its treasury, if necessary, to carry on the fight." I hope the exposure of the infamous tactics of these misleaders of labor will open the eyes of those who have followed them blindly like a lot of sheep.

F. A. S.

MORAL COURAGE.

It is an Indispensable Qualification of a Revolutionist.

We find many apparently well-meaning people of the professional class who eloquently portray the evils that capitalism inflicts upon the worker, but when it comes to taking a stand against capitalism these gentlemen usually quail. A case in point is the recent experience of an S. L. P. man, who, on reading an account of Southern mill conditions in a capitalist paper, sent to the writer thereof a copy of The Daily People, containing an article on the subject and a letter inviting him to contribute to this paper a full account of the evils as they exist. The person addressed answered as follows:

"Dear Sir—

"I am much obliged to you for your kindly letter and I shall try to send a letter to The Daily People very soon, or rather to you, for the paper. I realize quite keenly that the evils of the cotton mill can be remedied finally only by the destruction of the system that makes possible the selfish spirit in which they are run, but I feel that every law that gives a child a better grasp on living is a step toward this and not a means of making the old system more secure. For that reason the aid of even so conservative a paper as the Evening Post is to be valued.

"Sincerely yours,

No article was forthcoming, but the gentleman's conscience must have been troubling him, for some time later he again addressed our comrade to this effect:

"Dear Sir—

"You may recall the fact that I wrote you that I would send a letter to The Daily People concerning conditions in the cotton mill here, and I feel that I owe you an explanation though I much fear that it will be impossible for me to make the matter clear.

"My knowledge of the mill was gained from teaching a volunteer night school for the children, and my knowledge of the type, before the mill has influenced it, came from a residence of several years in the Tennessee mountains. The night school that I taught worked under such difficulties that I went before the School Board with just such facts as I sent to the . . . and persuaded that body to establish a public night school in the mill district. When the mill officers here read my letter to the . . . they took it to one of their "bosses," a man raised out of the mass of the mill folk for the purpose of giving them the watching that no one else could or would give them, and this "boss" has endeavored to twist that letter, written to defend the mill people from the attack of another paper, into an attack on the mill people themselves. Since I have bound myself up, to a certain extent, think that the interest you manifested by writing to me was not appreciated.

"Very sincerely yours,

All of which goes to prove the truth of the adage that he who would be free himself must strike the blow. Others may give a lift but the real work of emancipation depends on the proletariat. Only these can have the moral courage necessary for the ordeal and they have nothing to lose but everything to gain.

Patterson, Attention!

Regular meeting of Section Passaic County will be held at Helvetia, on Van Houten street, Tuesday, August 11, at 8 o'clock p.m. All members are earnestly requested to attend.

Candidates are to be nominated for county offices at this meeting.

Edward Gilmore, Organizer.

Lyon in Patterson, N. J.

Frank D. Lyon will address an open-air campaign meeting of the Socialist Labor Party to be held on Monday, August 10, at 8 o'clock p.m., corner Main and Van Houten streets.

Members and sympathizers are invited to attend this meeting.

New Jersey S. E. C.

The next meeting of the New Jersey State Executive Committee will be held at the headquarters of Section Hoboken, corner Fourth and Garden streets, Hoboken, on Sunday, August 9, 1903, at 2:30 p.m.

George P. Herrschafft,

Secretary.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper it is an invitation to subscribe. Terms—25 cents for six months, 50 cents for one year. Address the Weekly People, 26 New Reade street, New York City.

CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS

ITS INFLUENCE ON THE UPWARD MOVEMENT OF THE WORKERS.

Impossible to Eradicate It When It Has Once Taken Hold—Through It Comes the Power of Solidarity and Stamina for Revolt

able to push down such a portion of the working class economically, but never morally, provided always the pressure brought to bear by capitalism upon the class conscious workers will have the effect of producing a counter pressure; it will not debase, but embitter; it will not degrade the worker to the ignominy of the slums, it will raise him to the dignity of martyrdom.

A NEW PASTURE

For Troy's Fakirdom—Goddess of Chance to Wear "Label."

Troy, N. Y., Aug. 2.—Local fakirdom has sought pastures new by boycotting those necessary plague spots of capitalism known as gambling hells, so that in the future we may expect to see that when the wage slave with that surplus he has saved above that prosperity existence that he is at present enjoying seeks to woo the fickle Goddess of existence that he is at present enjoying, label" or an A. F. of L. card, showing that they are running a "fair game," before he risks his easy money obtained from some humane boss who furnishes him with work because he loves him so.

The debasing tendencies of the capitalist system are, however, very different at different periods, in different localities, and in different industries; they depend upon the condition of the market, upon the degree of competition among the several establishments, upon the grade reached in the development of machinery in the respective branches sure of the clearness with which the capitalists understand their own class

conditions, etc., etc.

Likewise do the counter tendencies that develop in the several layers of the proletariat depend upon manifold circumstances; they depend, in turn, upon the customs and wants of the population from whose ranks the class of the proletariat has been recruited, upon the degree of skill or strength required in the respective industries; upon the extent to which woman and child labor prevails; upon the size of the industrial reserve army, which is very different in several industries; upon the clearness with which the working people perceive their class interests, and lastly upon the nature of the work, whether it isolates or brings the workers together.

Each of these several sets of circumstances in the several industries and subdivisions of the working class vary not only greatly, but they are subject to constant changes owing to the uninterrupted course of the technical and economic revolution in the production.

Every day capital subjects some new section of the country and some new branch of industry to its process of exploitation and reduces the respective population to the level of proletarians; every day new branches of industry spring into life, and existing ones are revolutionized.

The spectacle presented at the inception of the capitalist system of production is seen to-day. Even now new layers of the population are thrown into the class of the working proletariat; others sink below the slums, and others again rise above the lowest grades; among the working proletarians themselves there is a constant flux and reflux noticeable; some portions are seen to rise, others to decline, according as the uplifting or the depressing tendencies may temporarily have the upper hand.

Fortunately, however, for the cause of human rejuvenation, a time is reached, sooner or later, by most of the layers of the working class, when the uplifting tendencies obtain a decided mastery, and when they are effective enough to awaken in some section of the proletariat a consciousness of self, a consciousness of the solidarity of all its members and of the whole working class, a consciousness of power that is born of their close union.

Soon as any portion of the work-

pose of instructing the ignorant Federation how to vote, is not dead, but sleeping. After nominating one

Manning for Mayor the Civic Leagues retired to their den awaiting for something to turn up from either of the capitalistic parties (the Kangs not included, as the Leagues say there is not enough room for both to make expenses on one ticket). As the politicians of both

sides have had their eye teeth cut in regard to labor politics of the Federation brand, the outlook for the Civic League is, to say at the least, very dubious.

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Chas. H. Chabot, Secretary.

THAT "PARADISE"

AUSTRALIA TAKES DRASIC MEASURES AGAINST STRIKERS.

Debate Cut Off in Parliament to Rush

Through a Bill Which Renders Participation in the Strike Summarily Punishable by Imprisonment and Fine.

Australia has often been called the paradise of the workingman; just the kind of paradise it is, the following will show. It will also show of what benefit to the workers is State ownership of railroads under the capitalist State.

The State of Victoria, like those of all the Australian States, are the property of the capitalist government.

The railway employees are public servants and as such are expressly debarred by a service regulation from affiliating themselves with any political association.

But the conditions of labor on the roads being so bad the Trades Hall, a union organization and headquarters of the "labor" party, thinking the time opportune for a trial of strength, determined to bring the railway men into line, and recently called upon them to enroll themselves.

When the engine drivers announced their intention of coming into line and affiliating with the Trades Hall, the Government promptly forbade them, on the

grounds that they were debarred by the service regulations and that the State

recognized no executive authority other

than its own over its employees. But the engine drivers insisted and the Government stood firm. Either its employes

must conform with the service regulations or they must leave the service, which meant, incidentally, the forfeiting of pensions.

The engine drivers threatened to strike

and Mr. Irvine, the Premier of Victoria,

to whom they appealed for help, gave way. If it was to be a fight it should be to a finish.

It was threatened that the whole body of railway employees would follow the engine drivers out. With the prospect of all traffic indefinitely tied up, the mail service disorganized and the city of Melbourne's food supply cut off, the Trades Hall thought that it had the government at its mercy. But, as Mr. Irvine had announced, it was to be a fight to a finish.

At midnight on May 7 the engine drivers quit work. Ten drivers only remained loyal and they were promptly put to work next morning to instruct the volunteers who came forward.

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Story of the Subway Strike

The statement made at a recent meeting of the Central Federated Union (the Circus) by the delegate of the Italian Excavators, to the effect that the members of his union are still suffering from the same old grievance of being "paid short in their wages," on some of the sections of the Rapid Transit Subway Tunnel, brings to mind the recent desperate struggle of those same excavators and their betrayal through the vicious methods of pure and simple fakirism and the treachery of their brother unionists schooled in the "craft" conscious methods of the American Federation of Labor, which caused their strike to end in a fizzle.

Much has been written in the columns of *The Daily People* on the infamous practice of making contracts with the bosses, one, two or three year agreements, which compel the unions making them to stand by the very capitalists against whom other unions are compelled to fight in their struggle for better conditions.

At the present writing the horseshoers are suffering from the contract between the brewery workers and the brewery owners, and the pipe caulkers and tapers, the teamsters, the terra cotta workers and the houseshapers and movers are hindered in their efforts by the existence of the agreement between the Central Federated Union and the Rapid Transit Subway contractors.

The existence of this latter agreement is what crushed the fighting spirit of the Italian rockmen and excavators, and run their aspirations into the ground.

The failure of their strike presents an instance of the vilest and most flagrant betrayal of a body of workingmen driven to revolt by unbearable conditions and ready to fight unitedly for their demands, as the brave attitude of the Italians proved, and the rude dispelling of their hopes of securing a sufficient pittance to enable them to exist in at least a half-decent fashion as such things go under capitalism.

That the Italian workmen, most of whom are comparatively new to the country and to a great extent ignorant of the language, do not realize the meaning of their treatment sufficiently to prompt them to rise and throw the fakirs who betrayed them off their backs, is not to be wondered at, when one considers the depths to which the rotteness of the teachings and tactics of fakir-ridden "unionism" of the pure and simple type has reduced its members who are not of the despised "dago" element, but who think themselves superior to the so-called dagoes, and are often ready to say of them as did Delegate Stanton on the floor of the Circus, that "there never was a good one of them come from a woman's breast," while at the same time willing to see good "union" men work with strike breakers while men that "there never was a good one" were putting up a gallant fight against exploitation of the fiercest and meanest kind, such as was and is their lot upon the subway tunnel work.

A review of the events connected with this strike will no doubt be of interest to the readers of *The People*, and serve to furnish them with a few more points on the perfidy of the "labor lieutenants" and the viciousness of these hirelings of the capitalists in their handling of matters concerning the struggles of the working class, whom they are supposed to lead.

Early in April the Italian laborers, nearly 5,000 of whom worked on the subway and 10,000 or more upon outside contracts, became thoroughly dissatisfied with the way in which they were being treated. All were working not less than ten hours per day. Rockmen were supposed to be getting \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day and excavators from \$1.25 to \$1.50, but it was asserted, and envelopes collected to prove it, that repeated "mistakes" were being made in the payment of many, especially those who could not speak English, and that those men on finding their envelopes short and attempting to make a protest to the paymaster, were rudely pushed away by a policeman detailed for the purpose of maintaining "order" around the pay window.

Working as they were, among good pure and simple workers of other trades, when it was suggested to them to organize and join the great and only A. F. of H.—Il, they fell an easy prey to the dues hawking fakirs of that body. The result was the formation of the Rockmen and Excavators' Unions and their affiliation with the Central Federated Union (the Circus).

The members of the new unions devised a wage scale calling for \$2.50 per day for rockmen and \$2 for excavators and an eight-hour day, to go into effect on May 1. This was presented for endorsement at the C. F. U. meeting on

April 12, at which one delegate made a howl that he thought they ought to go slow in endorsing such "steep" demands on the part of "newly organized" men. After the meeting no one could say whether or not the scale had been endorsed, and at the next meeting on April 19 the matter was brought up by Herman Robinson, who declared that the impression had gone out that the C. F. U. was opposed to the demands of the excavators. A lively debate followed, in which the delegate who had objected to the scale as too "steep" to be asked for at all once, continued his objections and voted against the endorsement, which, however, was carried.

By the "agreement" existing between the subway contractors and the Central Federated Union the job is supposed to be rendered immune from strikes, all "differences" arising to be "arbitrated" through the Rapid Transit committee, composed of Delegates Pallas, of the Patternmakers, McConville of the Safety Engineers, and Holland of the Stationary Firemen. How well the contractors are safeguarded by this plan and how much of a farce it is for the workingmen may be judged by the fate of the Teamsters and the Pipe Caulkers and Tappers. In the case of the former, who like the excavators were newly organized and not a party to the agreement, the men struck and were persuaded to go back "pending arbitration," and have their grievances finally adjusted at a conference to be held on June 4, the date set for the "re-adjustment" of wages scales and other matters, when they were to be made a party to the general agreement which will prevent them from striking in future. How much the arbitration meant to them was shown by the recent report of their delegate, Ryan, who on the floor of the C. F. U. denounced the Rapid Transit "agreement" as a "crack-a-jack" and one that "it would take a mighty good leader to understand," and he declared that the teamsters are still suffering from the same old grievances. In the case of the Pipe Caulkers, who deferred their strike in the hope of getting their scale of \$3.50 per day at the conference of July 10, the contractors held that as "half or more" of the men in that occupation are not getting that amount, it is not the "prevailing rate" of wages, and they therefore refused to pay it. The Pipe Caulkers struck to enforce it, but their "brother unionists" were unable to assist them by refusing to work with strike-breakers, because of the "contract" which must be lived up to in order to maintain the "honor" of the C. F. U. A news item of July 22 stated that the Degnan-McLean firm of contractors had succeeded in filling the places of the pipe Caulkers on its section of the subway, and was no longer hampered by the strike. Great is the "solidarity" of pure and simple!

The subway contractors, feeling protected by the "agreement" with the C. F. U. and confident that its friendly fakirs would stand by them, refused to listen to the Italian laborers, and the latter, foolishly thinking that the "great" A. F. of L. of which they were now a part, would help them in their efforts to improve their conditions, went on strike on May 1 and proceeded to learn their first lesson in pure and simple treachery.

The "honor" of the C. F. U. was now at stake for fair, and right strenuously did the fakirs seek to uphold it. At the next two meetings of the Fakiration, the all important point was not what could be done to help the striking Italians to enforce their demands, but how quickly could they be induced to return to work "pending arbitration," and thus notwithstanding the notoriously brutal conditions under which the men worked, and the vile treatment accorded to them in the payment of their miserable wage previous to the strike. The contractors wanted the men ordered back, but the degree of autonomy supposed to be enjoyed by the union prevented such a course, and Holland declared that they had already done all they could and failed.

"All the arguments pro and con, some denouncing the strikers, the hottest of which came from Waller of the Patternmakers, who was hissed for his bitterness (the hissing was started by spectators in the rear), and others praising them and declaring they should be supported, would fill a 16-page paper. Strange to say, not a word was dropped as to the influence of Serrati and the men who had infused the fighting spirit into the brave Italians who had been so miserably betrayed by good "union" men.

This was the "juicy" delegate upon which the Pipe Caulkers' committee, upon whom the fakir delegation, tried so hard to be appointed, but was ignored, and the four added were Daly, Archibald, Noonan and Robinson. The writer on asking why they threw down Quinlan was met with this answer: "Oh, we want this for ourselves; this is too 'juicy' to let him in on."

This committee's first duty was to get the striking Italians back to work and do the "conciliating" business afterward. But the strikers were not so easily bluffed. Some of them had worked in the coal mines, and most of them had heard of the fate of the miners. Among those of the downtown division were many Northern Italians, who possessed some knowledge of Socialist principles, and naturally were onto the game of the fakirs and would not swallow the bluff. While the uptown strikers were mostly Southerners and Sicilians, and to a great extent ignorant of language and methods of the country, they were all the more suspicious of a proposition to return to work "pending arbitration," when they at least knew that the fakirs were aware of the awful conditions un-

der which the subway work was conducted. Filled with a spirit of resentment toward their exploiters, encouraged by the example of their Northern comrades who understood the situation, and inspired by the teachings of Editor Serrati of "Il Proletario" (the official organ of the Italian Socialist Federation), who had been induced by the Socialists among them to address their mass meetings, the men started the first week of their fight, a united, determined body, whose complete tying up of the tunnel could have gained for them most, if not all, the concessions they demanded, were it not for the scabby actions of their "brother" members of the A. F. of L. and their fakir "leaders" in the "unions" that were not composed of "dagoes."

The strikers, however, lacked one thing, and that was men of knowledge and determination to represent them. The men elected as officers by the various divisions of the unions, were without economic or political knowledge. Thus they were easily persuaded by the fakirs that the best course was to assist them in trying to stampede the strikers back to the trenches and so swamp the splendid display being made by them, and run their fighting spirit into the ground. The men refused to listen, and compelled their vacillating officers to line up with them, but the incident had a discouraging effect on those who had felt confident that these officers would "lead" them to victory. On the other hand, the action of the strikers in notifying the fakirs that they had voted to refuse to return and wanted the arbitration first, caused much uneasiness in the ranks of the fakirs as was shown by their attitude when Pallas reported for the "juicy" committee on May 10, that they had failed to get the strikers to agree to go back and apply to be let in on the general agreement, and made special request that he be permitted to report progress without further comment, in the hope that they would have a better report next time. It was plain that the main question was "How shall we assist the bosses in getting the strikers back?" not "How shall we help the men obtain their rights?" There would be no "juice" in the latter proposition.

The following from the "Circus" reports in *The Daily People* will give the reader an idea of the results of their efforts. On May 18:

"After McConville had dropped out something unintelligible Pallas again got the center of the ring and described the progress of their efforts with the Italian Rockmen and Excavators whose strike is considered to have been a violation of the agreement between the C. F. U. and the contractors, though the Italians were not organized when the agreement was made. Pallas told how they had held various conferences and induced the bosses to hold off until they made an effort to get the strikers back to work, and how they had succeeded in persuading the Italian officers to agree to call a meeting and attempt to induce the strikers to return, but much to their disappointment the Italian rank and file refused to follow their advice. Repeated efforts had been made along this line, but all to no purpose, and the committee after talking it over with the representatives of the other trades affected had decided to leave the matter to the C. F. U. and wished to be discharged from further duty in the case."

The treachery of the fakirs and "race leaders" was only reinforced by the activity of those faithful servants of the "law and order" preserving capitalist, the police. Of course, since the government of the city is thoroughly capitalist, through the foolishness of the workingmen who voted it into power, nothing is more natural than that all the police available should be placed at the disposal of the contractors, and right well did they attend to their "duties." Day after day during the strike the papers contained accounts of "serious riots" being "narrowly averted" through the "vigilance" of the officers who were scattered along the tunnel almost as thick as mosquitoes along the edge of a Jersey swamp, ready to sting with their batons any presumptuous striker who had the temerity to approach too near the sacred property of their all-powerful masters. The "vigilance" consisted of rushing on every group of strikers who happened to gather near the line of the subway, and scattering them like sheep before the onslaught of batons in the hands of "law and order" preserving representatives of capitalist oppression.

To be sure, nothing better could be expected of the "men" on the police force. Having obtained their jobs from the corrupt politicians who handle the political end of capitalist society, often is a reward for assistance rendered in recruiting "voting cattle" from the dopes of their own class, they are compelled to do the dirty work of their masters and help to whip the discontented workers into subjection or lose their positions and be thrown into the ranks of the decent workingmen who are still free to fight against the tyranny of the capitalist exploiters instead of assisting in upholding it. To some of them whose manhood has not yet been totally destroyed, such "duties" are, no doubt, irksome and disagreeable, but to those who as a natural result of their environment have become brutalized and brought up, or rather down, to the standard required for faithful tools of capitalists who are themselves thoroughly brutalized as a result of the present system of private ownership and capitalist competition, seem to take a sort of sav-

age pleasure in the performance of their "duties," similar to that felt by the "boys in blue" administering the "water cure" to a helpless Filipino, the black fiends and their still more fiendish white officers at Idaho taunting a dying Mike Devine through the gates of the Warner "Bull Pen," or the "brave" deputies shooting parading "foreigners" through the back at Lattimer. In confirmation of the above contention may be quoted the following from the news items of May 18:

"The police stationed throughout Little Italy said that while the Italians were restless to-day, no trouble was expected until the end of the week. One patrolman said:

"We are sore on the Italians up here and have a grudge to settle with them. Five and a half years ago three of the citizens' clothes men in the East 104th street station went to a saloon on 112th street, between First and Second avenue, to get an Italian. They were cut up, and practically bled to death, all dying in hospitals later. That was in what is known as Murderers' Row, which is now being pulled down for the new Jefferson Park. As long as the Italians keep quiet we don't do anything, but if they don't behave they will get into trouble. Sometime we will settle that grudge."

"The poor "dago" who came to this "glorious" land of "liberty," filled with the hope of enjoying some of its much vaunted "prosperity," was up against it all around.

The attitude of the capitalist newspapers during the subway strike was positively amusing to the class-conscious workingman, but it was also positively instructive to the student of capitalism and its degrading influence on society in general and the lackeys of the ruling class in particular. The ridiculous lengths to which the degenerate scribblers of the subsidized papers went in their efforts to show their masters how faithfully they are being served amply proved the depths of mental prostitution to which those miserable hirelings have been reduced. Spitefully worded accounts of the actions of the strikers, intended to throw public sympathy against them and highly exaggerated reports of the success of the bosses in obtaining strike breakers are the regulation thing in all strikes, but in this case stories of the latter kind were positively absurd, since not much more than one in a hundred of the Italians even read anything in the English language. The rest neither knew nor cared what was printed about them, as they were well aware of what was being done in the tunnel. The silliness of the "yarns" about the conduct of the strikers was absolutely mirth-provoking. Yarns about plots to dynamite the trenches, schemes to burst the big water main by "throwing stones at it!" and the like were foolish enough, but the yesterdays of them all capped the climax by "discovering" a plot to blow up the monster gas tank of the Consolidated Gas Company up on First avenue. Seeing that the explosion of the tank, with its 5,000,000 cubic feet of gas, would have resulted in the killing of scores of Italian families in the nearby tenements, the absurdity as well as the viciousness of the "yarn" is apparent. And yet workingmen purchase such papers and imagine them to be the "friends of labor."

The subway laborers' strike is over, and as was to be expected, the strikers have got it in the neck. The incident is a thing of the past, but the lessons to be learned from it are enduring. How different would have been the story, with such a body of men so united and so willing to fight as were those strikers, had they been affiliated with the class-conscious Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, which does not bind one branch of an industry by a contract with the boss which compels it to seab on another branch. The strike as a weapon is fast becoming obsolete, but here was one instance when it could have been made effective were it not for the viciousness of the graft-hunting gang of labor fakirs to whom the dupes of the pure and simple trade unions intrust the conduct of their affairs. How different would have been the story had the economic organizations of the various trades on the tunnel been controlled by men imbued with the spirit of the S. P. L. and the S. T. & L. A. and ready to honestly fearlessly stand by their fellow workers and help them take advantage of every such opportunity to wrest from their relentless exploiters a little larger portion of the product of their labor."

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When the Italian workers and those of every other race will have learned that only when they join hands with those in the ranks of the sturdy fighters in the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, where they will be trained in class-consciousness and taught to strike with the political ballot as well as the economic "Sciopero" (stop work), will they be able to fight the exploitation by the capitalist class correctly and effectively and it is up to those who have already learned it, to see that such education is spread among them; the pages of the history of the labor movement will no longer be blackened by such sad tales of treachery and betrayal as *The Story of the Subway Strike*.

And again on June 8:

"This disposed of, the Italian Rockmen and Excavators, of whom nothing

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT NOTES

The Wage Worker of Detroit, Mich., having been discontinued, the subscribers to that publication will have *The Weekly People* sent to them until the time when their subscriptions would have expired.

We desire to state to such subscribers that a postal card will be mailed to them just before their subscriptions are about to expire, and we invite them all to become readers of *The Weekly People*.

Once more we desire to call attention to the work that is being done in Paterson, N. J., by Comrade Berdan. After securing 22 more subscribers this week for *The Weekly People*, the total number of readers in that city has been increased to 148. And if Comrade Berdan keeps this up Paterson will soon have as large a mailing list as some of the largest cities in the country. The workingman who is made a reader of *The Weekly People* will, after reading it for some time, learn that only the Socialist Labor Party represents the interests of his class, and many of these readers will become recruits to build up our organization with. So, comrades of other cities, if you want our position understood you must do as Comrade Berdan is doing—go to the working people and ask them to subscribe for *The Weekly People* and *Monthly People*. Do not wait for them to come to us. And do not depet, I on one or two members of your organization alone to get subscribers. You are all fitted for this work, and if each one will do a little every city can have as many readers as Paterson, N. J.

Another edition of 30,000 leaflets on "The Difference" was sold last month, and an edition of 60,000 is now in press.

The Labor News still has a few copies of "Communism in Central Europe," by Kautsky, which can be procured at \$1.50; former price \$3.00.

The latest publication of the Labor News is "The Trusts," a 64-page booklet in the *Buzz Saw Series*. Price, 5 cents.

Section Baltimore, Md., had a 15,000 edition of "An Appeal to the Wage Workers of Maryland" printed last week, and Sections St. Louis, Mo., and Louisville, Ky., took 10,000 leaflets each.

section sending in the most subscribers for *The Weekly People* between July 18 and September 7 is to receive one of Comrade Wollenschlager's portable steel platforms.

Another platform is offered to the organization in New York city selling the largest number of Sunday Peoples between the same dates. The Thirty-Fifth Assembly District has ordered 205 papers of to-day's issue, so we presume they are going to enter the contest.

LABOR NEWS

The Labor News Company sent 2,000 of its five-cent pamphlets to Glasgow, Scotland, last week to add force to the "unholy Scotch current," which is now sweeping down with England. An order for 300 pamphlets was also sent to the literary secretary of the S. L. P. of Southampton.

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WOMAN UNDER SOCIALISM

By AUGUST REBEL

Translated from the Original German of the Thirty-
Third Edition

By DANIEL DE LEON

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PART II.

WOMAN IN THE PRESENT—Continued.

Yet another cause that destroys the object of marriage to not a few men is to be found in the physical debility of many women. Our food, housing, methods of work and support, in short, our whole form of life, affects us in more ways than one rather harmfully than otherwise. We can speak with perfect right of a "nervous age." Now, then, this nervousness goes hand in hand with physical degeneration. Anæmia and nervousness are spread to an enormous degree among the female sex: They are assuming the aspect of a social calamity, that, if it continue a few generations longer, as at present, and we fail to place our social organization on a normal footing, is urging the race towards its destruction.

With an eye to its sexual mission, the female organism requires particular care—good food, and, at certain periods, the requisite rest. Both of these are lacking to the great majority of the female sex, at least in the cities and industrial neighborhoods, nor are they to be had under modern industrial conditions. Moreover, woman has so habituated herself to privation that, for instance, numberless women hold it a conjugal duty to keep the tid-bits for the man, and satisfy themselves with insufficient nourishment. Likewise are boys frequently given the preference over girls in matters of food. The opinion is general that woman can accommodate herself, not with less food only, but also with food of poorer quality. Hence the sad picture that our female youth, in particular, presents to the eyes of the expert. A large portion of our young women are bodily weak, anæmic, hypernervous. The consequences are difficulties in menstruation, and disease of the organs connected with the sexual purpose, the disease often assuming the magnitude of incapacity to give birth and to nurse the child, even of danger to life itself. "Should this degeneration of our women continue to increase in the same measure as before, the time may not be far away when it will become doubtful whether man is to be counted among the mammals or not."¹ Instead of a healthy, joyful companion of a capable mother, of a wife attentive to her household duties, the husband has on his hands a sick, nervous wife, whose house the physician never quits, who can stand no draft, and can not bear the least noise. We shall not expatiate further on this subject. Every reader—and as often as in this book we speak of "reader," we mean, of course, the female as well as the male—can himself further fill the picture: he has illustrations enough among his own relatives and acquaintances.

Experienced physicians maintain that the larger part of married women, in the cities especially, are in a more or less abnormal condition. According to the degree of the evil and the character of the couple, such unions can not choose but be unhappy, and, they give the husband the right, in public opinion, to allow himself freedoms outside of the marriage bed, the knowledge of which throws the wife into the most wretched of moods. Furthermore the, at times, very different sexual demands of one party or the other give occasion to serious friction, without the so much wished-for separation being possible. A great variety of considerations render that, in most cases, out of all question.

Under this head the fact may not be suppressed that a considerable number of husbands are themselves responsible for certain serious physical ailments of their wives, ailments that these are not infrequently emitted in marriage. As consequences of the excesses indulged in during bachelorship, a considerable number of men suffer from chronic sexual diseases, which, seeing these cause them no serious inconvenience, are taken lightly. Nevertheless, through sexual intercourse with the wife, these diseases bring upon her disagreeable, even fatal troubles of the womb, that set in, soon after marriage, and often develop to the point of rendering her unable to conceive or to give birth. The wretched woman usually has no idea of the cause of the sickness, that depresses her spirits, embitters her life, and uproots the purpose of marriage. She blames herself, and accepts blame for a condition, that the other party is alone responsible for. Thus many a blooming wife falls, barely married, a prey to chronic malady, unaccountable to either herself or her family.

"As recent investigations have proved, this circumstance—that, as a result of gonorrhœa, the male sperm no longer contains any seed-cells, and the man is, consequently, incapacitated for life from begetting children—is a comparatively frequent cause of matrimonial barrenness, in contradiction to the old and convenient tradition of the lords of creation, who are ever ready to shift to the shoulder of the wife the responsibility for the absence of the blessing of children."²

Accordingly, a large number of causes are operative in preventing modern married life, in the large majority of instances, from being that which it should be:—a union of two beings of opposite sexes, who, out of mutual love and esteem, wish to belong to each other, and, in the striking sentence of Kant, mean, jointly, to constitute the complete human being. It is, therefore, a suggestion of doubtful value—made even by learned folks, who imagine thereby to dispose of woman's endeavors after emancipation—that she look to domestic duties, to marriage,—to marriage, that our economic conditions are ever turning into a viler caricature, and that answers its purpose ever less!

The advice to woman that she seek her salvation in marriage, this being her real calling—an advice that is thoughtlessly applauded by the majority of men—sounds like the merest mockery, when both the advisers and their flatterers do the opposite. Schopenhauer, the philosopher, has of woman only the conception of the philistine. He says: "Woman is not meant for much work. Her characteristic is not action but suffering. She pays the debt of life with the pains of travail, anxiety for the child, subjection to man. The strongest utterances of life and sentiment are denied her. Her life is meant to be quieter and less important than man's. Woman is destined for nurse and educator of infancy, being herself infant-like, and an infant for life, a sort of intermediate stage between the child and the man, who is the real being."

Girls should be trained for domesticity and subjection. . . .

Women are the most thorough-paced and incurable Philistines."

In the same spirit as Schopenhauer, who, of course, is greatly quoted, is cast Lombroso and Ferrero's work, "Woman as a Criminal and a Prostitute." We know no scientific work of equal size—it contains 500 pages—with such a dearth of valid evidence on the theme therein treated. The statistical matter, from which the bold conclusions are drawn, is mostly meager. Often a dozen instances suffice the joint authors to draw the weightiest deductions. The matter that may be considered the most valuable in the work is, typically enough, furnished by a woman—Dr. Tarnowska. The influence of social conditions, of cultural development, is left almost wholly on one side. Everything is judged exclusively from the physiologic-psychologic view-point, while a large quantity of ethnographic items of information on various peoples

¹ According to observations made in the psychiatric clinic at Vienna, paralytic (softening of the brain) is making by far greater progress among women than among men. To 100 patients taken in, there were in the years: 1880-77: 15.6 male and 17.6 female cases.

1888-90: 17.7 male and 19.0 female paralytic.

During the sixties there was, on the average, 1 female paralytic to 8 males; now there is 1 female paralytic to 3.49 males in Denmark, to 3.22 in middle and upper Italy, 2.89 in England, 2.77 in Belgium, and 2.40 in France.

² "Wiener Arbeiter Zeitung," January 31, 1895.

³ Dr. F. B. Simon: "Die Gesundheit des Weibes," Stuttgart, 1893, F.

⁴ Dr. F. B. Simon: "Die Gesundheit des Weibes," Stuttgart, 1893, F.

⁵ Dr. F. B. Simon: "Die Gesundheit des Weibes," Stuttgart, 1893, F.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

Systematic Work in California.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—It has been suggested to me that a short account of our attempt to push our party press and literature into the unorganized districts of California might prove interesting and even encouraging to other comrades throughout the country who are, or ought to be, working to the same ends.

A short time ago our State Executive Committee entrusted me with a list of the California subscribers to The Weekly and Monthly People, with instructions to use it for the purpose of obtaining aid from sympathizers and isolated comrades in procuring subscriptions for The People and distributing the party literature. Our plan was to establish an agency in as many counties as possible and build up an organized corps of workers extending over the length and breadth of the State. This, however, must be the work of time.

To begin with, a circular letter was sent to the readers of The Weekly and Monthly People in localities where no sections exist. This circular was simply worded, explaining our plan and asking for support and advice. To facilitate the task of replying, a few questions were formulated relative to the reader's willingness and ability to aid in the work, the interest in Socialism displayed in their vicinity, etc. The answers came in slowly at first, but in time a not discouraging number of replies were received. All these, with the exception of a very few absolute refusals, were answered carefully and at length; subscription blanks were enclosed and the vital importance of increasing the circulation of The People was impressed upon all. All were also asked to undertake the distribution of a few of the free leaflets.

The next replies were fewer, but more earnest. Some subscriptions were sent in, and a few consented to try some of the free leaflets. These letters were immediately answered, and the State Committee forwarded the leaflets at once. More subscriptions came in and demands for more leaflets followed. Soon these new workers sent for bundles of the cheap pamphlets, and sold them, too. A few of the larger books were also disposed of in this way. But, best of all, we feel that new life is being infused into the movement in this State, and that the circulation of our party organ is increasing.

The subscription list is now being used in sending blanks to those whose subscriptions are about to expire. Old and new lists are also being compared, and polite letters of inquiry sent to all who have dropped out.

Of course, this takes time, but it is astonishing how much can be accomplished by a few hours a week of systematic work. In proportion to the necessity, the exertion required is small indeed. Although our results have as yet fallen far short of our aims, still enough has been done to encourage us to proceed, and also, I hope, to stimulate others who may wish to take up this kind of work in their own locality.

But our work in California has only just begun, and any advice, information or instruction from better organized States would be gratefully received. Fraternally,

Jane A. Roulston.

San Francisco, Cal., July 20, 1903.

The Monthly Bears Fruit.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Enclosed find postage order for six yearly and one half-yearly subscriptions to The Weekly People, and one yearly to The Monthly. The weekly subscriptions are the fruits of the Monthly seed, plus lots of cultivation and hard work, but it's the only way. When a Monthly seed is sown and cultivated by the revolutionary hoe of the New York Labor News Company, in the shape of leaflets and pamphlets, it is quite sure to bring a subscription to The Weekly. The only way is to cultivate the soil of proletarian intelligence with class-conscious literature.

F. Kissell.

Omaha, Neb., July 24, 1903.

Glass Workers Declare for S. T. & L. A.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Word has just reached here that the American Flint Glass Workers at their convention held in Cincinnati, O., adopted the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance declaration of principles. I will send further particulars when I receive the vote.

E. J. Dillon.

Marion, Ind., July 21.

Development of Department Stores.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—In the article, "The Retail Clerks," that appeared in a recent issue of The People, attention was called to a rumor abroad that Wanamaker's new stores when completed will be doing business all day and late at night. This would eliminate what little chance there is for the middle class shopkeepers, on the lower East Side in particular, and when Wanamaker's idea of retailing on a large scale after 6 o'clock will be introduced by other stores of his caliber, it would have the effect of paring green on cockroaches upon the little class vermin.

"Tis not so," was told me by some few clerks, who still imagine they can become capitalists. "It will never come to pass that a store of Wanamaker's size will do business on the style of small shopkeepers," said others. Now comes a daily morning paper that is dependent

for its existence upon the advertisements of the department stores with a "puff," describing the magnitude of the new enterprise and bringing the news that the Astor place station of the new underground rapid transit will open directly in the Wanamaker store.

I would not be a bit surprised to find when going up or downtown in the very near future and in reaching Astor place to hear the conductors of the subway shout out: "Wanamaker's! Do your shopping here!"

Think of it, readers! An underground system of the capacity that we are about to have to dump its millions of passengers into a retail store of the Wanamaker's!

It was also told me by some that the department store could never grab up the stores that deal in men's furnishings, clothing, hats, shoes and other apparel for men. Because, as I must admit, and as I know from experience, men as a rule do not like to enter a shop and be waited upon by a woman. But what will prevent the large department stores from having railroads enter into their establishments having a separate entrance—in fact, a store in itself, attached though it be to this other department and to a certain extent independent of all others. Things that only a few years ago seemed impossible are to-day living facts. Now, I ask all those employed in the retail business to realize what little chance they have of becoming business men themselves—I mean bosses. For heaven's sake, men, think of the impossibilities to become a business man by striving in the direction that your daddy used to. How much more better, more sensible, more practical, more sure of success, it would be to direct your efforts for success of the Socialist Labor Party. The governmental powers once in our hands, it would be an easy matter to take possession of every economic function in society. Be a man, join the ranks of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance. It will tell you how to act toward your boss so long as we have to put up with it. Join the Socialist Labor Party, and speed the day of our emancipation.

New York, July 25. N. O.

What Shall We Do to Be Saved?

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Some of the Boston labor fakirs are very much disturbed because a movement against parading on Labor Day (the capitalists' Labor Day) seems to have broken out in the ranks of pure and simpledom. It is a well known fact that these parades, like the former St. Patrick's day parades, have nothing whatever to do with the emancipation of labor; in fact, even less than the Patrick's day parade had to do with the so-called freedom of Ireland. Both have been used by the fakirs as stepping-stones to political office and other graft.

"A good hard rap should be administered to the unions which have voted not to parade on Labor Day. The day is distinctively the workingman's day—a day on which he can help to show the strength of the organization he belongs to. It is a cause for regret to see big, brawny union men voting against the proposition to parade. Whether or not they are physically able to walk through the streets or whether they are ashamed to be seen with the mighty vanguard can only be surmised."

The above paragraph is from the pen of the "Labor Editor" of one of the Boston dailies. No doubt the S. L. P. will continue to give, under the emblem of the Arm and Hammer, some good hard raps not to the labor unions refusing to parade as political-voting cattle, but to the swelled-head labor fakirs and "Labor Editors," who are always ready to parade the "mighty vanguard of labor" providing the "dough" and political graft is in sight or in a "strong box."

What Shall We Do to Be Saved? Weep, brothers, weep; our sun sinks fast—

Fakirism is doomed and grafting cannot last.

The Arm and Hammer men are after us always,

And they're "organized" a union—the S. T. & L. A.'s.

Weep, brothers, weep; men of stalwart arm and rugged brow;

Who always followed us, refuse to do so now.

The night is now upon us, our finish we can see.

Oh, Hanna! Hanna! save us from the fighting S. L. P.! —Non-Parader.

Agitation in Bayonne.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Two more meetings, under the auspices of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, were held at Bayonne, N. J., on Monday evening, both on Twenty-second street—one at the corner of Avenue F and one at Avenue D; the former with Boland, of Jersey City, and Kineane and French, of New York; the latter with Troy and Jackson, of Yonkers, Bohm, of Michigan, and Klanansky, of Bayonne.

The Avenue D meeting was largely attended, the audience remaining attentive for an hour and three-quarters, during which a quantity of literature was distributed. At the Avenue F meeting the audience was smaller, but equally attentive. S. L. P. pamphlets, S. T. & L. A. manifestos and Weekly Peoples were also distributed and a number of additional names secured of those who are willing to join the Alliance.

On Next Tuesday, August 4, another meeting will be held at Avenue D and Twenty-second street, to be followed by an organization meeting in a hall near Avenue F.

These meetings are being held for the purpose of obtaining a foothold for the

S. T. & L. A., and the S. L. P. as well, in this ultra-proletarian district, and the members of Section Hudson County should see to it that they are alive to their duty and help the good work along. This because the speakers at these meetings, while primarily seeking to establish an economic organization, are also doing the work of the political one, inasmuch as in their speeches they do not mince matters or try any "catching flies with molasses" tactics preferring to give their hearers S. L. P. doctrine straight from the shoulder, explaining the principles and tactics of both, their relations to each other, the necessity of each supporting and being the ally of the other, etc., knowing that only men who are made to clearly understand what they are joining can be expected to be of any use in the building up of a class-conscious organization.

The establishing of a workingmen's Alliance will provide a good base from which to build a section of the S. L. P., and both should exist in every such industrial center. That the building of the economic organization is an absolute necessity goes without saying, unless we are willing to leave the workers to be roped into "unions" promoted by the labor fakirs of pure and simpledom, there to have their minds poisoned with false teaching and the work of reaching them with the revolutionary message of the S. L. P. rendered more difficult. There is discontent among the workers, and we should not leave the guiding of it to the "labor crooks," who will run it into the ground, but should rather take hold and help it assume a character that will make it a factor in the emancipation of the working class.

Thus it is up to the New Jersey comrades to assist in the work of agitation and organization in their State. F.

Bayonne, N. J., July 28, 1903.

Be These Symptoms?

To the Daily and Weekly People.—It seems that there is no city in the Union that is less often heard from us to local activity than Minneapolis. Whatever the cause of that may be, it certainly is not that there is no activity; because winter and summer, year by year, the section has been heard from, and that often in a manner that worries the various foes of the working class quite seriously.

The most favorite and lasting expression of these worries is the declaration that "Section Minneapolis is dead, gone and buried, and hence does no longer exist!" This generally comes from the Kangaroos, little and big, which locally have united in one grand and amorous embrace. Years ago I heard a story of a simpleton who was requested to bring something from a room where lay a corpse. He positively refused, for, said he, "It is so hideous to see corpses stare." Some such feeling must come over the local Kangaroos, little and big, which locally have united in one grand and amorous embrace. Years ago I heard a story of a simpleton who was requested to bring something from a room where lay a corpse. He positively refused, for, said he, "It is so hideous to see corpses stare."

By this time Mr. Kang was more desperate and trying to save himself by being "witty," so he shouted: "Perhaps you will take the name Republican party!"

"Perhaps we will," said the speaker, coolly. "In Ireland they have the Irish Socialist Republican Party, and that is identical with the S. L. P. of the United States."

The audience laughed and applauded. An old workingman, standing in front of the speaker, swung his hat over his head and cried, "Hurrah for the Socialist Labor Party!" in a dialect which indubitably betrayed a son of Erin. (Exit Kangaroo!)

The meeting yesterday was one of the most successful of the season. A crowd of from 200 to 300 listened for about two hours with the keenest attention to the speaker, and the interest that prevailed among the various groups after the meeting was closed showed that a deep impression had been made. \$2.50 worth of pamphlets were sold at this meeting alone.

After the meeting a young man came up to some of the comrades and said: "Say, some of you fellows ought to go up and talk to the workers at Smith's saw mill. That is a dreadful place. Last week there was a strike; ten men walked out, and their places were at once filled with others. They went out because they objected to Smith holding back 25 cents a day of their wages until the mill closes in the fall. Then they would get it all, if they stayed out the time; if not, they would lose it all."

He added in a tone of indignation: "And that is the same Smith that wrote to King Oscar of Sweden and asked how much the famine in the north would cost, as he was ready to pay the whole thing!" Just how this is we, of course, know not; but both incidents are thoroughly characteristic of C. A. Smith, who has the reputation of being a type of capitalistic philanthropy.

At the last business meeting "The Party Press" was instituted a special order of business for each meeting. The speaker had been so long on the box that his voice was giving out, so he bent down and whispered to another comrade to take charge of the Kangaroo, and then stepped down. The Kangaroo got jubilant and started to shout to the audience that the speaker was afraid to answer, and that, of course, was because he could not. "Don't fret yourself," said the other comrade, in a voice that bade silence to the Kangaroo as he stepped on the box, "you shall be answered. The speaker tells me his voice is giving out, and he has talked so long that it would not be surprising if he has already overcome it; but, nevertheless, you shall be answered, so be patient."

He then told the audience that the so-called "Socialists," by the aid of

some of their Democratic and Republican friends in the State Legislature, had secured the enactment of an amendment to the election law which they hoped would deprive us of our name. In this they may eventually succeed, but if they think they are half as glowing as they are jubilant, they are much mistaken.

They will never get the name to which

they have the first right, without the

workers' right to depicture their repre-

sentatives in the affairs of the parish pump,

a careful regard for the feelings of the ratepayers and a licksplitter policy of re-

ceiving the support of anybody, provided

the candidate's return be the result. The

utter worthlessness of this kind of repre-

sentation can be seen on an East Side

Board of Guardians, when an S. D. F.

Guardian, Mr. George Lansbury, protested

against receiving a trade union deputa-

tion on the ground that the union was

attempting to intimidate the board. The

spectacle of a so-called Socialist treat-

ing the workers' right to depicture their

representatives as intimidation would be

amusing were it not such a contemptible

display of treachery.

Education furnished another useful ob-

ject lesson of the futility of the "offi-

cate-at-any-price" policy. Almost any Sun-

day morning one can hear Councillor A.

T. Wrampliny (S. D. F.) expressing in

the name of Socialism the meekest of

middle-class ideas on local govern-

ment, voicing the most reactionary of eco-

nomic fallacies, and incidentally, in nearly every

thing he does on the Council, betraying

the interests of the class he and his

precious organization profess to serve.

Herewith can be found a sample. Councillor Wrampliny is talking on the ques-

tion of a 30-shilling minimum wage: "I

think that this question has been brought

up at a most inopportune moment; the

estimates for the financial period have

been passed, and the adoption of the

resolution would upset the whole finances

of the Council. Besides, if it were

moved next year it would stand bet-

ter chance of getting carried."

This gentleman's courage is on a par with the

worthy South End Councillor, who re-

cently, buying a copy of the Socialist

from a lady member of the S. L. P., was

seen to blusteringly land it back, after

his eye had caught the "Warning."

To return, however, to Mr. Wrampliny,

the non-sensical drivel quoted above is the

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Henry Kahn, Secretary, 2-6 New Reade street, New York.
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA.—National Secretary, C. A. Weitzel, 2604 Dundas street, London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY, 2-6 New Reade street, New York City. (The Daily People's literary agency.)
Notice: For technical reasons no Party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

Regular meeting held July 31 at 2-6 New Reade street, A. Gillhaus, the chair. Absent without excuse, Hammer and Klein. The financial report, ending July 25, showed receipts, \$79.25; expenditures, \$68.37.

Communications: From Detroit, Mich., containing subscription list of the Wage Worker, the unexpired subscriptions of which are to be filled by The Weekly People. The names were ordered placed on The People's mailing list, with subscriptions credited up to the time of expiration. From San Antonio, Tex., remitting for Daily People Auxiliary League and reporting about work done in Galveston and other matters. From the editor of Il Proletario on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Italian Socialist Federation asking that the N. E. C. send a delegate to the convention of the aforesaid Federation to be held on Sept. 6 and 7, at West Hoboken, N. J. Since the N. E. C., under the Party constitution, has no power to send a delegate to a non-Party body, however friendly to the Party, it was resolved to send a visiting representative without a vote. From Pennsylvania S. E. C. upon matters of agitation. From Erie, Pa., a second letter pointing out the necessity of locating a speaker at that city. An S. L. P. speaker who would take up his residence in Erie would find a fertile field and the section would do all they can to help him find suitable work. From Watervliet, N. Y., reporting election of officers and giving reasons for voting against the Everett proposition. From Duluth, Minn., reporting election of officers. From E. C. Dieckmann, St. Louis, Mo., accepting management of Daily People and stating that he would report for duty on Sept. 7. From Ohio S. E. C. on the state of the organization; also asking for replacement of 15 due stamps lost by Section Canton. Granted. From Montrose, Col., sending money for a Daily People loan certificate, discussing the Everett proposition and sending vote thereon. From Peekskill, N. Y., asking for speaker. Attended to. From Winona, Minn., reporting election of officers. From Paterson, N. J., asking for list of speakers, which has been sent. From New London, Conn., sending vote on Everett proposition and discussing same. From Illinois S. E. C. financial report for past quarter. From Texas S. E. C., reporting election of new S. E. C. and sending financial report for fiscal year ending June 30. From Albany, N. Y., application for charter and charter fee. Charter granted. From Cananea, Mex., with remittance for Daily People Auxiliary League; also depicting conditions prevailing there. From San Francisco, Cal., transmitting subscriptions to Weekly People and upon other matters. From St. Paul, Minn., bearing upon omission of credit for Daily People Auxiliary League. The letter, proceeding from an individual member of the section, was considered improper and a committee was elected to draft a communication to the section, same to be submitted at next meeting and sent on to the section if approved.

A small number of reports of the vote on the Everett proposition have been received up to date as follows: In favor, Section Lincoln, Neb., 5; member-at-large, Ohio, 1; Against, Cambridge, Mass., 5; Madison County, Ill., 12; Waukesha, N. Y., 8; Duquoin, Ill., 2; members-at-large in Massachusetts, 1; in Kansas, 1; in Texas, 1; in Louisiana, 1; in Connecticut, 1; in Colorado, 2; Mixed, Belleville, Ill., 4; in favor and 1 against.

Total, 40 in favor and 35 against.

Edward C. Schmidt, Rec. Sec.

Minutes of Illinois S. E. C.

Meeting of the Illinois State Executive Committee held July 26. Yocom elected chairman. Edie, Reed and Goss absent and excused.

Correspondence: Reports received from State Solicitor Charles Pierson of work done in Aurora, Bactovia and Elgin, stating he had secured \$1 Monthly People subscribers, 7 Weekly and 2 Arbeiter Zeitung; sold 74 pamphlets, held 4 meetings and got 3 new members; report accepted. From Frank McWay, of Roanoke, notifying of his removal to Davenport, where he will be a member-at-large. From Robert Lee, a new member, asking for information.

The exchange of communications between the State Organizer and the Organizer of Section Chicago, relative to State Solicitor, was read and ordered filed. Organizer was instructed to do all in his power to keep Pierson in the field.

Three applicants admitted as members-at-large.

Financial report: General fund—Balance July 12, \$3.22; received from Section Belleville for stamps, \$2.40; from Section Chicago for stamps, \$2.40; from Section Peoria, 50¢; total, \$5.32. Agitation fund—Balance July 12, \$5.40; received from Section Belleville, \$7.70; from Section East St. Louis, 55¢; from Section Peoria, 82¢; from Section Madison County, \$1; total, \$21.10. Expenses—To Pierson for wages and incidentals, \$20; postoffice order, 10¢; total, \$20.10.

G. A. Janning, Secy.

AS TO THE EVERETT PROPOSITION.

To The Daily and Weekly People.—Seeing in The People the views of several of the comrades on the proposed amendment of Section Everett, I would like to state mine.

I always held that if a man's premises were correct his reasoning had some logic, but if wrong that knocked out the whole argument. Now, I deny Section Everett's premises to this extent:

Section Everett says, that the class-conscious members of the wage working class have found by bitter experience, as well as by observation, that on the economic field their chances against those of the capitalist class are nil, and therefore conclude to throw away the S. T. & L. A. We have found out no such thing, except from an organized scaberry point of view.

They ask us to sever all connection with trade unions, so say I, but is the S. T. & L. A. a trade union?

Trade union spells craft autonomy and craft autonomy spells organized scaberry to me, and therefore the S. T. & L. A. is not a trade union, but a class union.

Pure and simple unionism being useless, they therefore conclude that economic organization is useless. I would like to ask Section Everett if we had no ballot, or were to be disfranchised, would they still hold that economic organizations are useless and therefore it was impossible to establish the Socialist Republic, because we could not have political power? I ask if that would be the case could we not get Socialism? I hold there is nothing that can keep us from Socialism so long as we organize with the political and economic combined, and they should be kept combined, the economic dominated by the political, or, in other words, the S. T. & L. A. to be dominated by the S. L. P.

John M. Francis.
Du Quoin, Ill., July 26.

To The Daily and Weekly People.—Allow me to say a few words on the question, the Everett proposition, now before the Socialist Labor Party. I could not, if I would, restrain myself from penning these opinions down, and request their publication along with the other part of the discussion on the subject. What I have to say is merely a criticism, mainly of letter IV, by Abram Miller, of Malden, Mass. I have not as yet discussed the points with any one, and ask therefore to be looked upon as one only of the rank and file of the S. T. & L. A.

If I were one who voted to second the Everett proposition, I would certainly try to see to it that, not only the principles and tactics of the S. L. P. rested "on a scientific and unshakable foundation," but also all the arguments that I would make on all vital questions before the S. L. P., this one included.

Comrade Miller says: "Trades unions become corrupt because they are impotent." Honestly, I wouldn't give two cents for the science of that statement.

Turn the statement around and then read it: "Trades unions become impotent because they are corrupt," i. e., "corrupt": fakir-ridden, dominated by the influences of capitalist material interests.

But that is not all there is to that statement. Of course, in speaking of corrupt trades unions, I would infer that the pure and simple trades unions were the ones in mind. Now, how has it come about that the conditions as revealed in that "turned statement" do prevail in the pure and simple trades union movement? Well, again I must say, so often has that been explained in The People, that it ought to be pretty generally known. However, material interest has caused those conditions. Whose material interests? The capitalists and the dishonest labor leaders. The capitalists are few, the workingmen many. To maintain control over the political powers of the land, the capitalists always were dependent upon the votes of the workingmen. So, with his left hand Mr. Capitalist patted the weak labor leader upon his shoulders and with his right hand he dropped that cold, ringing remuneration into his—the weak labor leader's—pocket, and whispered into his ear: "Boon my candidacy in your union." And the labor leader, too weak to continue a bona-fide fight in the interests of his union and fellow workingmen, succumbed to the temptation and the voice of his own material welfare. Thusly came he in touch with Mr. Capitalist; thusly became he a labor fakir: thusly has he ever since been used by Mr. Capitalist; not only in the capitalist class' political interests, but also in its direct economic interests. And thusly has the labor fakir ever since, in order to maintain the conditions under which he could fakir, with the zealousness of the ultra reactionist, embalmed the century-old "principles" of pure and simpledom; principles one century behind modern conditions, principles that stand as a stumbling block to the interests of all those who uphold them. Does the rank and file of pure and simpledom know these facts?—on the unorganized element of the working class which, to a large extent, is disgusted with pure and simpledom, know them? No! Who is to tell them? The S. T. & L. A. can do the most effective telling on those points.

I wished this was all. But no. Continuing, Comrade Miller says: "Are we not doing the same with the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance?" In other words, we are trying to use the S. T. & L. A. as a means of "catching" those unclassconscious members of the wage working class.

For the sake of

argument I will grant that that is so. But a grave charge, an insinuation at least, is made: That the S. T. & L. A. is petrifying the unclass-consciousness of its members. The charge can not possibly, or at all, be sustained.

Separation or no separation, the fact must be borne in mind: The S. T. & L. A. has its own mission to fulfil, and its own basis to rest upon.

I would not in the S. L. P. offer the least resistance to the proposition if I did not believe that the connection, in so far as it gives the S. L. P. a part of the control over the S. T. & L. A. to be of some use. Imagining by a miracle the control over the pure and simple trades union movement vested in the hands of the S. L. P. what would happen? Only those who are ready to fight and win can perceive.

I have in my day listened to several anti-S. T. & L. A. lectures, and what about the lectures? First, their ill-concealed desire to "fight" along the "easy," never-goal-reaching lines, crept out; second, their utter distrust for the working class; third, the consequence of that distrust—their chronic pessimism, and for the rest, the horrible inconsistency of their points, arguments that would deceive the dull only, arguments that really could be used to catch flies with.

Arvid Olson.
New York, July 25, 1903.

NOTES FROM D. A. NO. 19.
S. T. & L. A.

"Divide to conquer" has ever been the favorite maxim of the capitalist class, and to intrench themselves more securely they have sought to divide the working class on race and religious lines. Yea, they have even gone to the extent of endeavoring to instill into the minds of the workers the fallacy that there is an aristocracy of labor.

In proof thereof, witness the following editorial stunt which appeared in a recent issue of the Boston Herald:

"The domestic servants' union recently organized in Holyoke, after the pattern of the Chicago organization of the same nature, it is said to be getting on rather indifferently. The chief obstacle to the general organization of domestics appears to be that of persuading the well-paid, well-contended workers that they ought to re-enforce the incompetent and cast their lot with them. Capable girls know that they have but to ask in order to receive. It has been observed that in domestic service there are principles involved that are scarcely met with in the labor organizations of men or even those of women employed in shops, offices or mercantile affairs. It is the growing impression that organization does not promise to bring a satisfactory solution of the servant girl problem."

Need we comment on the above? Need we again repeat the oft quoted facts presented by the new trade unionists—members of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance—to the effect that there is no aristocracy of labor.

Yet, one of the cardinal and basic principles (save the mark!) of the American Federation of Labor, a pure and simple trade union, and with which this servant girls' organization was affiliated, is: "There is an aristocracy of labor."

The capitalist class, the Boston Herald and all other apologists of capitalism included, have nothing to fear from a servant girls' union founded on the lines of the one in Holyoke.

Not until the workers come to a realization of the fact that there is a class struggle and organize themselves into the only bona fide union of labor, the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, is the day of their emancipation in sight; and inscribe upon their banners, "Workers of the world, unite! You have nothing but your chains to lose. You have a whole world to gain."

Yes, indeed, it would be a waste of time to comment on the Herald editorial. It speaks for itself, and so eloquently does it portray the pure and simple union as an ally of capitalism that we refrain from marring the picture here presented. Let this suffice.

In the same identical issue of the Herald and on the same identical page occurs the following:

"The Quincy citizen who paid his bill at the grocer's and received \$9.3 in greenbacks in change for a \$100 bill issued by the "Confederate States of America" drove a better bargain with it than Jefferson Davis was ever able to do with one of a similar kind and denomination."

The Herald has repeatedly taken issue with the Socialists on our antagonism to the middle class. It has continually editorialized on the good and pious cockroach business man, the pillars of the church and society, the same class that weeps sand in your sugar, lard in your butter, water in your milk, etc., and other such pious acts.

Yet there are people who still assert that the middle class and the Democratic party are not expansionists.

The Herald has, unwittingly, once more demonstrated the "thrift and econ-

omy of our great and powerful middle class."

Perhaps the Herald meant the whole matter as a joke. However, we never take the Herald seriously, even in its most sane moments. It is too ridiculous for that.

We desire to once more call the attention of the comrades to the necessity of contributing to the agitation and organization fund of District Alliance No. 19.

If we desire to have a permanent organizer on the road, we must have the necessary funds.

What, with the fiasco called a strike in Lowell, ending in the utter defeat of the cotton mill operatives, under the banner of the United Textile Workers' Union, and the defeat of the scabby Boot and Shoe Workers' Union in Lynn, the present time may be considered a most opportune one in which to present the principles of the S. T. & L. A. to the workers.

All remittances should be addressed to the organizer, Francis A. Walsh, 25 Tower avenue, West Lynn, Mass.

In our notes of last week we stated that the firm of Walton & Logan, of Lynn, had thrown out the Tobin stamp. It was a mistake on our part, and should have read Morse & Logan.

Walton & Logan have not yet thrown out the stamp, but they are expected to do so at any moment.

The employees in that factory refuse to pay dues to Tobin.

Solefasteners' Alliance, L. A. No. 391, of Lynn, is holding well attended meetings of late, considering the warm weather. New members are initiated at nearly every meeting.

L. A. No. 391 has elected a good set of officers, and we expect to see this local display increased activity.

Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the U. S. of A.

The Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Association is an organization that is composed mainly of German workingmen. And according to the nature of the organization it is natural that the Socialist Labor Party is there to take a hand in it, and more natural that the "Socialist Party," alias Social Democratic Party, to be in it, because they are the alte genossen, and when they knew what socialism was, der De Leonites did not dream of it. And consequently they must occupy all the offices, so they can help the privately owned newspapers of the Volkszeitung corporation to live and to support the grafters on it.

But danger of losing these offices is coming quicker than they expect. The S. L. P. vote in the organization is constantly increasing, as the figures below will show:

For chairman, Henry Schmidt..... 2,579
For financial secretary, L. Weber..... 2,484
For treasurer, Karl A. Zimmerman..... 2,420
For recording secretary, Fritz Braueghen..... 2,449
For trustee George Luck..... 1,898
For trustee August Friederichs..... 1,583
For trustee, John B. Gross..... 1,940
For trustee, Jos. Hain..... 1,844

We Have the Following Pamphlets in Yiddish:

The Great Apostles of Socialism.

In the speech which he delivered before the bankers at Davenport, Governor Cummins said: "He who does not sustain competition becomes the apostle of Socialism."

In this view, the builders of trusts might be considered the most effective apostles of Socialism in the country, and if they could create perfect and permanent monopolies there is, we should say, no good reason to doubt that Socialism would be the ultimate product of all their ingenuity and energy. The doubtful question concerns conditions rather than theories. Old dogmas of individualism still have great force, and they will be decidedly captivating so long as the opportunities of individualism are not too closely restricted by the kind of individualism which tends more and more to the concentration of power in a few hands. But it is evident that if this were fully realized its restrictions would be nearly the equivalent of the restrictions of Socialism that the theory of individualism would be destroyed in the practice.

The problem of power would be the all-important problem then, and it would be decided as the problem of political power has already been decided. The millions upon millions of people who were oppressed as individuals by the monopolies would conclude to take them over in their collective capacity for their own protection.

Of course, such action may never be necessary, but it will not be prevented by a foaming at the mouth over the word Socialism. The outcome depends solely upon the extent to which the Socialist-hating apostles of Socialism are permitted to go. If the administration of the law keeps them from stifling competition the need for extinction will not be felt. If they succeed in establishing a system of industrial tyranny the public will relieve them of its cares, change its character and turn their genius for organization to good account.

—The Chicago Record-Herald.

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